

# The Woman's Page of The Times-Dispatch

## Good Manners

### In the Home

Women who are home-makers and home-lovers are thoroughly well aware of how a home atmosphere may be rendered cheerful and gay, or gloomy and depressing, by the manners and tempers of a family. A smiling morning face, a desire to place the affection of parents, sisters and brothers before the transient applause of outside, a habit of unfailing courtesy and quick thoughtfulness are the visible signs of kindness and usefulness, basic principles underlying all real home happiness and contentment.

Too often members of a household fail to realize the discomfort caused by unpunctuality in carrying out the daily domestic program, particularly as that program affects meals. Many times such tardiness, throwing out of line the entire household machinery, is not even atoned for by explanation or apology. The rule of good manners and refinement is transgressed again whenever neatness in appearance and surroundings is presumed upon or disregarded, slovenliness in either line being unpardonable under the conditions of present-day civilization.

#### The Habit of Conversation.

Nothing reflects more absolutely the spirit of good manners than the habit of conversation in the home. Silence at the table is depressing. The experiences and incidents of a day always furnish material for lively and amusing talk at meal times, talk that may be a source of enjoyment to elderly people, and an incentive to younger members of a household to contribute their share to the general entertainment fund. Intelligent discussion of State or national events is always productive of instruction as well as broadening of interest among young people.

#### What Parents Should Avoid.

For their part, parents should avoid at table or in the family circle, elsewhere, the retelling of idle gossip or scandal, remembering the evil effect such talk must inevitably have upon boys and girls in the formative stage of life. Because the hours spent at table should always be looked back upon as among the most enjoyable of the day, there should be no fault-finding about food, and if children must be corrected, they should be spoken to as quietly as possible, without calling attention openly to their misbehavior.

Considerate kindness should characterize the relations existing between brothers and sisters. Neither the one nor the other should take the advantage of close kinship to criticize or to tell sharp home truths that are bound to wound and leave sore feelings as a result of their utterance.

#### A Rule to Be Respected.

In minor questions of home etiquette, a rule to be respected by young people of both sexes should cause them to rise and offer a seat to their parents and elders entering a room, to give them precedence in leaving a room or ascending stairs. Boys should promptly remove their hats coming into a house, and boys and girls should early be made to understand that they must never enter a bedroom without knocking.

Early home influences teaching children to be polite, helpful and considerate will continue through life to render them agreeable companions and refined men and women. More than anything else, they decide whether self-assertiveness and familiarity or sincerity and courtesy shall be the distinctive features of twentieth century social life.

#### Mark Twain's Sayings.

In his new book, "Mark Twain," Professor Archibald Henderson recalls many of Mark Twain's best known common sayings and others that are not so commonly accredited to him.

Nearly every one remembers "Bad-den-head Wilson's calendar" and Mark Twain writing down in it that "the cauliflower is nothing but cabbage with a college education," but comparatively few people know him as saying, "Truth is our most valuable possession. Let us encourage it. Never tell a lie—except for practice. When in doubt tell the truth. Never waste a lie. You never know when you may need it."

#### Other Mark Twain Catchwords.

Other catchwords emanating from Mark Twain include these: "Be virtuous and you will be eccentric. There isn't a parallel of latitude but think it would have been the Equator if it had had its rights. Mark Twain is said by Professor Henderson to have advised him before undergoing a surgical operation, 'Console yourself with the reflection that you are giving the doctor pleasure, and that he is getting paid for it.' Another Mark Twain epigram, falsely attributed to Andrew Carnegie, says: "Put all your eggs in one basket—and then watch that basket."

#### Imitators and Imitations.

Let the imitation be better than the thing imitated, says a writer in the book review department of the New York Times for August 13th, and the offense will be thereby condoned. Since so few escape the taint of plagiarism, more generosity of judgment should obtain against the habit of bringing such a charge.

#### Sanctioned by High Authority.

Borrowing the thoughts of others in a practice sanctioned by highest literary authority, the article goes on to point out, as in the case of Plato, who while arraigning others, himself borrowed from Homer. As in the practice of Shakespeare, indebted to many sources for his plots and scenes, whose most beautiful songs were borrowed from Philostratus.

The sin of plagiarism, the reader is informed, lies in making poor use of a well-expressed idea which has been appropriated, since, as one since the days of Adam has been able to lay claim to entire originality.

**Howe and Watts Follow Others.**  
Had Howe not utilized the thoughts of those going before him as inventors, the sewing machine would not have been introduced by him, and Watts would not have made travel easy by means of the steam engine.

Most of the operas of the present day are reminiscent as to plot and music, for a musical genius does not hesitate to use the talents of others as stepping-stones, and rarely reaches the top without profling by the experience of others.



STUNNING CARRIAGE OR AUTOMOBILE WRAPS AND A CHIC SEMI-TAILORED COSTUME IN SERGE.

L'Art de la Mode.

## JUST FROCKS---AND

What the Home Designer, if Artistic and Courageous, Can Do in Evolving Unusual Effects by the Use of Simple Materials, by Simulated Buttonholes, Arrowhead and French Fagoting.

So long as the present simplicity of line prevails, dress designers must specialize on the matter of trimming rather than construction. Some of them have evolved unusual effects by such simple means that they seem courageous to have tried them. French designers are proverbial for this sort of thing. They work for effect, and fabrics and decorations are only a means to that end. It is an old story to find that the touch of brilliant color introduced into a gown of silk or fine wool is only a piece of brilliantly printed cotton cloth. It may be run with fine gold thread or overlaid with fine braids, but it is only chitzy from the upholstery department after all, and only a dress artist with pure singleness of purpose would have had the temerity to use it. It is this appreciation of printed cottons that has given impetus to the use of cretonne as dress trimming, and judiciously used, it is most effective. Something is always done to relieve its crudeness, and leave only the subdued glimpses of color.

**Vermicelli Design in Braiding.**  
A wide hem-facing of cretonne at the lower edge of a white serge skirt is braided with white soutache in the little irregular curves and quirk known as the vermicelli design. It does not require to be stamped, but the braid may be sewed on in a free-hand design, just curving it about over the ground so that large, uncovered spaces are avoided. A child's coat of white, blue, gray or any other of the

pretty, soft, pastel shades, has its collar and cuffs wholly or in part of cretonne overlaid by spaced rows of soutache matching the cloth in color. Even hats and the becoming motor bonnets have been shown this year made of cretonne, with the vermicelli design worked out in raffia or natural color straw.

#### French Fagoting.

French fagoting differs somewhat from the ordinary fagoting in that the lines run straight from one edge to the other, and the effect is almost the same as hemstitching. One of the many valuable uses of this stitch is to apply a deep hem of another color or material to a skirt or drape. All dressmakers know the difficulties of developing a dress from bordered material. Here is a means by which the upper part of a skirt may be bored, fitted and made an even length, then a border or deep hem of another color or material. Carrying the idea a little further, inset blocks of color above the hem would make an even more distinctive and individual pattern dress. The two materials to be joined would best be basted to a strip of stiff paper—the desired space between the two, in taking the stitch into the seam, above the opening, bring the thread around in front of the needle, as if about to make a buttonhole. Take the stitch into the other piece of material without wrapping the thread around.—Helen D. Purdy.

## Loyalty to Duty and Love

Parsifal emphasizes the fact that heaven is not reached by a single bound, but that we build the ladder by which we rise.

After Parsifal had won the great victory and gained the Sacred Spear, still had he not grown enough to be worthy to rule in the council-chambers of Monsalvat.

He had to grow to new heights. Thus, many years yet of struggle, temptation and trial awaited him. Self-mastery and spiritual supremacy are attained, not by one victory, but by many. They come only as the rich fruition of a life of strenuous endeavor, a life of loyalty to duty and to love.

#### His Beautiful Secret.

"What is the secret of your life?" asked Mrs. Browning of Charles Kingsley. "Tell me that I may make mine beautiful, too."

He replied: "I had a friend." "Wherever in her 'Middlemarch,' George Eliot puts it well: 'There are natures in which, if they love us, we are conscious of having a sort of baptism and consecration; purity by their pure belief about us; and our sins become the worst kind of sacrilege, which tears down the invisible altar of trust.'"

#### New Drinking Cups.

A new wrinkle cleverly thought out has resulted in the appearance of pigskin drinking cups that, folded, take up the least space in a lunch basket. These cups are lined with waterproof rice paper and are among the most ingenious contrivances of their kind. Far-sighted women who are already making up their stock of little holiday gifts would do well to add to their collection one or more of these cups calculated to be of real service to the person on whom it is bestowed.

## SEASONABLE DESSERTS AND CAKES

With a Touch of Novelty to Tempt Tastes Tired of a Well Known Succession of Cakes, by New Flavors and New Combinations of Flavor—The Short Cake is Delicious Served With Whipped Cream—The Burnt Sugar Cake is Especially Good.

#### Peach Short Cake.

Put one cupful of butter into three cupfuls of baking flour, three teaspoonfuls of bread power and one-half teaspoonful of salt. When the flour is the consistency of cornmeal add enough sweet milk to make a dough soft enough to lift on a floured board, and from into two layers to fit a biscuit tin greased with drippings. These layers should be half an inch thick. Pat the lower one to fit the tin, having the centre much lower than the sides, as the tendency of dough is to rise higher in the centre. Spread the other layer on it. Bake twenty minutes in a quick oven; then split and bake the dough side five minutes to prevent cooking when the fruit is put on. When the dough is baking pare the peaches by dipping them a second in boiling water, then plunging into cold water, when the skins may be rubbed off, leaving the blush adhering to the pulp. Remove the pits and cut the fruit into slices. Place between the hot cakes and sprinkle generously with sugar.

#### Vanilla Wafers.

Beat one cupful of butter to

cream; add one cupful of sugar and cream again; then beat one egg and add three tablespoonfuls of milk and two teaspoonfuls of vanilla to the butter mixture. Sift two teaspoonfuls of baking powder with two cupfuls of flour, and stir into the wet mixture; form into a smooth dough, adding more flour if necessary to roll out to a wafer-like thickness. Cut into cakes the size of a silver dollar, place on greased tin and bake a pale golden yellow.

#### Ising for Burnt Sugar Cake.

When the cake has cooled ice with Paesian cream, made by creaming together half a cupful of butter and two cupfuls of powdered sugar. Flavor with a tablespoonful of burnt sugar syrup and add, last, the beaten white of an egg. This makes a soft, rich frosting, which will set in about an hour after spreading.

#### Peanut Cake.

Put a layer cake together with a filling made by creaming half a cupful each of peanut butter and powdered sugar, to which add half a cupful of whipped cream.—Avis Gordon Vestal.

## A Woman's Campaign

All over the United States women have organized a campaign for cleanliness, one demanding rigid investigation and an enforcement of the laws that have been passed to render food, especially, cleaner and more wholesome.

Through the efforts of women a health and sanitation department has been established in Seattle, and proprietors of all places where food is bought and sold obtain their permits as such, only after the commissioner of the Health Department is satisfied that they have met requirements, in cleanliness, ventilation and light, and in the clothing of workers who handle food. Every workman or working woman is obliged to file a certificate of health from a doctor, and no worker is allowed the use of tobacco while handling foodstuffs.

#### Supervise Boston Meat Market.

The Woman's Municipal League is entrusted with the surveillance of the Boston meat market. An organization of men and women, known as the Massachusetts Milk Consumers' Association, looks after the handling and transportation of milk throughout the State, and the Massachusetts Consumers' League is investigating all bakeries, and issuing a printed list of those coming up to sanitary standards. A similar investigation has begun in New York City.

The Health Department of Washington, D. C., has inaugurated a vigorous campaign for the personal cleanliness of all men and women handling food. Clean towels and stationary wash-stands for the convenience of clerks in Washington food stores have been found necessary by inspectors. The Monday Evening Club of Washington, composed largely of women, has entered upon a campaign for cleaner markets. They are trying to compel food handlers to protect their stocks from rats, mice and flies. Through a combined effort with other clubs there is therefore a visible improvement in the habits of the Washington baker, butcher, dairyman and grocer.

#### Lacking in Humility.

Among the nuns in convent not far from Rome, says Emerson, one had appeared who laid claim to certain rare gifts of inspiration and prophecy, and the abbess advised the holy father at Rome of the wonderful powers shown by her novice.

The Pope did not well know what to make of these new claims, and St. Philip Neri, a wise, devout man of the church, coming in from a journey one day, he consulted him. Philip undertook to visit the nun.

He threw himself on his mule, all travel-stained as he was, and hastened through the mud and mire to the distant convent. He told the abbess the Pope's wishes and begged her to summon the nun. The nun was sent for, and, as soon as she came into the apartment, Philip stretched out his leg, all bespattered with mud, and desired her to draw off his boots.

The young nun, who had become the object of much attention and respect, drew back with anger and refused the office. Philip ran out of doors, mounted his mule, and returned instantly to the Pope. "Give yourself no uneasiness, Holy Father, any longer; here is no miracle, for here is no humility."

#### Her Gown of Hope.

Once there was a woman whose harmless madness was to believe herself to be a bride, and on the eve of her wedding. Waking up in the morning she asked for a white dress, and a bride's crown; smiling, she adorned herself.

"To-day he will come," she said. In the evening sadness overmastered her, after the idle waiting; she then took off her white dress.

But the following morning, with the dawn, her confidence returned. "It is for to-day," she said. And her life passed in this tense, anxious, although ever-deceiving, certitude-taking of her gown of hope, only to put it on again.

#### Thought Bank Notes Rubbish.

A sick nurse in a Vienna hospital administered by nuns was observed burning up a bunch of paper money which she had found in the bed of a deceased patient.

She thought the bank notes were rubbish, and it took the authority of the Mother Superior to convince her that the rubbish represented a small fortune.

Subsequently it turned out that the sister, who had lived in the nursery since her third year, never went outside, and had nothing to do with worldly things whatsoever, had never heard of the existence or use of money in any shape or form.

#### A Mother's Love.

A popular lecturer in illustrating the power of maternal devotion said that one calm, bright, sunshiny day an angel stole out of heaven, came down to the world and roamed field and forest, city and hamlet. Just as the sun went down, he plumed his wings and said:

"Now my visit is ended. I must go back to the world of light, but before I go I must gather some memories of my stay on earth."

He looked over into a beautiful garden and said: "How lovely and fragrant are these flowers!" Then he plucked a cluster of the rarest roses, thinking that nothing could be more lovely or fragrant. A little farther on, however, he saw a bright-eyed, rosy-cheeked babe, smiling into its mother's face. The baby's smile seemed prettier than the roses, and he took that too.

Just beyond the cradle the eyes of the angel looked upon a mother's love, pouring out like the gush of a river toward the cradle and the babe, and he said once more: "Oh, that mother's love is the prettiest thing I have seen on earth; I will carry that too."

With his three treasures he winged his way to the heavenly gates. Before he entered, he passed for a final look at his mementoes. The flowers had withered, the baby's smile had faded, but the mother's love was there in pristine beauty and fragrance. So he let fall the withered flowers and the faded smile. Then he passed the gates and knelt before the Lord of Heaven, saying: "Here is the only thing that can be transplanted from earth to heaven without losing its undying sweetness—a mother's love."

**All Women Must Be Interested.**  
It is hoped that women in every city and town of the United States will eventually interest themselves in the work for greater cleanliness, forming housekeepers' associations and showing themselves alive and not indifferent to a work that must be prosecuted with vigor to become generally effective.